



Access to Services for Socially Marginalized Immigrants and Refugees



ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Overview

The Access for Marginalized Newcomers Project will provide capacity building for settlement agencies and community organizations in order to improve access to services for marginalized immigrants and refugees.



Advisory Committee Membership

Sectors Involved:

1. Mental Health
2. Health
3. Psychological Rehabilitation
4. Drop Ins
5. Day Centers
6. Gender-Specific
7. Shelters



Advisory Committee Membership *continued*

Sectors Involved:

8. Employment
9. City Social Services (OW+)
10. Ethno-racial Mental Health
11. Ethnic-Based
12. Youth
13. Culture-based
14. Education
15. Legal
16. Settlement



ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Goal & Role

The goal of the project is to increase access to appropriate services and supports for marginalized newcomers

The role as the Advisory Committee member to provide feedback to the project in area like outreach strategy, group sessions, Best Practice Forum, evaluation and final report.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Objectives

- To identify the capacity building needs i.e. cultural competency settlement workers and social service providers and identify the most appropriate method of dissemination of this information.
- To increase awareness and capacity of settlement workers and social agency workers to improve access of services for marginalized newcomer and promote open dialogue between these two groups to work towards mutual solutions.
- To develop protocols models and best practices to support marginalized newcomers and address the systemic barriers to access to services and supports



ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Mandates

- **To help organizations develop a clear understanding of the role they can play in supporting marginalized newcomers in Toronto**
- **To gain a greater understanding of the multiple issues newcomers face and the different resources that can be accessed**
- **To improve the effectiveness of existing resources as well as build relationships across the sector that will help advocate for persistent gaps in services and coordination**



ADVISORY COMMITTEE – *Mandates Continued*

As well as to:

- Ensure that the project is undertaken in a participatory and inclusive manner;
- Ensure that all deliverables which have been committed to are met;
- Oversee and monitor activities through regular reporting mechanisms



ADVISORY COMMITTEE – OPERATING GUIDELINES

- The Committee will aim toward consensus building as its primary decision making process
- The Committee will meet on a monthly basis for the first two months and then on an as needed basis.
- Committee members are expected to take a role in various aspects of the project such as leading focus groups, participating in meetings with prospective funders and other stakeholders, etc.
- Committee members will declare any real or potentially perceived Conflict of Interest in accordance with generally accepted principles.



Next Steps

Currently, we are working on:

- Revising Best Practices for front-liners
- Introducing an Outreach Strategy
- Revisiting our intake and evaluation processes
- Planning for a Forum for Service Providers and Clients